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The OIB

The Ohio Independent Baptist

The Newsletter of the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches

Vol. 65 No. 5

July/August 1992



Pastors and laymen from across the state found fellowship and spiritual refreshment at the 61st annual GARBC conference in Milwaukee.

In This Issue

- State Rep moving to Westerville. Page 2
- Two Ohio teens place first at National Talents for Christ. Page 3
- Ohio welcomes 5 new pastors. Pages 4-5
- Women plan 3 fall retreats. Page 6
- Lend-a-Hand reaches families in Broadview Heights. Page 8

Ohioans Find Milwaukee Conference Worth the Drive





Hats off to Pastor Merlyn E. Jones, pastor of Faith Baptist Church, Mount Vernon. He recently was appointed to the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches Council of Twelve to fill the seat vacated by Paul Jackson.

Baptist Bible College and Seminary has been granted approval by the state of Pennsylvania to offer the Doctor of Ministry degree. Courses are scheduled to begin in February 1993.

Having an Impact on Ohio



Larry Fetzer
State Representative

After spending 24 years of our lives in Dayton, the Lord has led the Fetzers to relocate closer to the center of the state. He arranged to sell our house in Dayton without our even putting it on the market, then He found a house for us in a perfect location for the work He has called us to. The house is in Westerville, a northeast suburb of Columbus.

Understanding that the house is, indeed, a gift from the Lord, Pat and I have determined that it should be used for the Lord to further our ministry. Our desire is to develop a home-based ministry to pastors and their wives, where they can come and spend a day or two with us for spiritual encouragement or counseling, for discipling, or for studying and learning together. Some of the most important work we do is with individual pastors and their wives. We will now be able to further develop that facet of our ministry to pastors.

This change will make it easier to keep in touch with our churches throughout the state. I hope to be able to see more of you.

In the mean time, I stand ready to serve you. I do have open dates for meetings yet this fall. Call me if I can be of help.

Larry Fetzer

Cedarville College News



CDR Radio announcer Brian Blair

When Brian Blair selects music for airplay on the CDR Radio Network, he reads the contents of the station's music library into his laptop computer, locates a song from over 13,000 entries, and in less than a second loads it into the station system. Not an unusual task for a program host in a station whose format is 70 percent music. Not unusual at all—except that Blair has been blind from birth.

CDR's network of stations serves central and southern Ohio and portions of Indiana and Kentucky. As the station celebrates 30 years in broadcasting, announcer Brian Blair is completing his eighth year with the station.

His disability is not a deterrent to his work. "What other announcers see on the computer monitor," he says, "I hear through a voice synthesizer. I use braille on CDs and tapes and I have a braille printer." He writes and announces news and weather and operates the CDR station by himself several hours each day.

"After I graduated from Cedarville [with a broadcast major in 1983]," Brian says, "I worked for a service in Dayton which reads newspapers over the radio to blind people." In 1984 he joined the CDR staff.

Many things Blair does surprise people. He says his activities are not dictated by his blindness, but rather by his interests.

He's been a ham radio operator and plays the piano occasionally at his church, where he is on the evangelism committee. Brian uses a cane and travels independently. "When I worked in Dayton, I rode the buses and had to transfer."

He says, "God has given me opportunities to give my testimony on the air and to encourage others with disabilities."

Canton Area Golf Tourney Planned



The Canton Area Baptist Golf Tournament Werbeach Memorial will be held August 22 at the Lyons Den Golf Course, Canal Fulton.

Cost is \$2, plus green fee of \$14. Send \$2 registration fee to Pleasant

Hill Baptist Church, P.O. Box 426, Smithville, OH 44677, by August 18.

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Ohio Women's
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1992 Project
Final Total:
\$12,591.53



TAKE TIME OUT to attend
the OARBC Conference at
Immanuel Baptist, Columbus,
October 26-28.
Please note change of date
from last year.

Medina Hosts 64th Hebron Meeting



Top quizzer
Scott Borling



Scholarship winner
Kim Quick

The 64th annual meeting of the Hebron Association of Regular Baptist Churches was held Friday, May 15, at the First Baptist Church of Medina. The host church provided an excellent meal for the messengers prior to the business session.

The main event was a Concert of Praise to God, featuring special music from various churches in the Hebron Association. A 70-voice Hebron Men's Chorus presented two anthems of praise, one of which was accompanied by a 30-piece Hebron Orchestra.

Special awards were presented to this year's top three youth quiz teams, with first place going to Grace Baptist, Westlake. The three top individual quizzers also received trophies. Scott Borling of First Baptist, Parma, took first place.

A Hebron Youth Scholarship of \$500 was awarded to Miss Kim Quick of First Baptist, Elyria. She was selected from several applicants for the award. Applicants must be planning to attend a GARBC approved school and be open to the possibility of vocational ministry to receive this award.

More than 400 attended the concert, which concluded with the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's *Messiah*, played by the orchestra. Following the concert, everyone was welcomed to a build-your-own sundae treat from the host church.

The Hebron Association, formed in 1928, is made up of 43 churches in north central Ohio.



Talents For Christ Names Ohio Winners

The Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches Youth Committee announces the 1992 Ohio Talents For Christ winners as follows:

Piano: 1st, Melody Young, First Baptist, Bowling Green; 2nd, Eric Anderson, Southgate Baptist, Springfield.

Organ: (no first); 2nd, Michelle Myers, Emmanuel Baptist, Toledo.

Female Voice: 1st, Kimberly Beresford, Calvary Fellowship, Painesville; 2nd, Lori Anderson, Southgate Baptist, Springfield.

Male Voice: 1st, John Sebestyen, First Baptist, Brunswick; 2nd, David Hamilton, Grace Baptist, Canton.

Woodwinds: 1st, Becky Lakes, Southgate Baptist, Springfield; 2nd, Erica Hunter, First Baptist, Elyria.

Brass: 1st, Mark Moseley, Grace Baptist, Lima; 2nd, Jennifer Roloff, Perry Baptist, Canton.

Strings: 1st, Amanda Whitmer, First Baptist, Bowling Green; 2nd, Lea Churgovich, First Baptist, Medina.

Bible Knowledge: (no first); Mark Prugh, Cedar Hill Baptist, Cleveland Hts.

Writing: 1st, Elizabeth Shinkle, Lemoyne Baptist, Lemoyne; 2nd, Scott Parcher, Southgate Baptist, Springfield.

Female Public Speaking: 1st, Kimberly Quick, First Baptist, Elyria; 2nd, Holly Peterson, First Baptist, Findlay.

Male Public Speaking: 1st, Kelly Peters, Southgate Baptist, Springfield; 2nd, Thomas Cress III, Grace Baptist, Troy.

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Ohio Teens Win at Milwaukee

Three Ohio teens placed in the National Talents For Christ contest held at the annual conference in Milwaukee. Melody Young, First Baptist, Bowling Green, placed first in piano, and Mark Moseley, Grace Baptist, Lima, placed first in brass. Each receives a full-year scholarship at one of our approved schools. Amanda Whitmer, First Baptist, Bowling Green, placed second in strings. She will receive a half-year scholarship.

ABWE needs 400 volunteers to help in the construction of their new headquarters in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. So far, several teams and some individuals from Ohio have signed up. ABWE needs help in all the building trades, as well as some "go-phers." CAN YOU HELP? Call Ralph Gruenberg at 717-774-0544 for information.

Please join Baptists for Life, Greater Akron-Canton Area, in setting aside Wednesday, August 7, as a day of prayer emphasizing human life.

Across the State



Pastor Shawn and Kristy Huck, Lindsay and Cara

Columbus

Maranatha Baptist gratefully announces the acceptance of their call to Shawn Huck to minister with them as youth and outreach pastor. A graduate of Cedarville College, Shawn received his Master of Biblical Studies from Northwest Baptist Seminary. He and his wife, Kristy, have been serving the Lord most recently in Tacoma, Washington, where Shawn was the associate pastor of Harbor Community Baptist Church. In addition to his responsibilities there he combined his love for the Lord and sports as chaplain for the Tacoma Tigers Professional Baseball Team. The Hucks and their three daughters, Lindsay, Cara and Marcy, began their ministry at Maranatha July 13.

Mount Vernon

The Easter morning worship service at **Faith Baptist** was attended by more people than any previous service in the church's history. Over 415 filled the church. Pastor Merlyn Jones writes, "Folding chairs were set up in almost every conceivable location. The choir stayed in the choir loft for the entire service. Someone remarked, 'I think we have found out how many our church can hold.' The middle level of the new parking lot was also filled with cars. Praise the Lord we had the new lot and the 52 new folding chairs available. The chairs arrived just three days before Easter!"

Medina

William Cunningham began his ministry as pastor of **First Baptist** on June 14. A graduate of Moody Bible Institute and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School of Deerfield, Illinois, William comes to Medina from Madison, Ohio. He and his wife, Barbara, have three children, Nathan, Briana, and Seth.

Willowick

An ordination council met at **First Baptist** on May 28 to examine Michael R. Fraser, youth pastor of the church. Pastor Bill Davis, Bedford, served as moderator, with 26 men serving on the council. After examination it was recommended that the church proceed with ordination, which was held Sunday evening, May 31.

Michael, who became the pastor of Faith Baptist, Perry, on June 1, served six years at the Willowick church. During that time he was also an instructor at the Baptist Bible Institute of Cleveland, was chairman of the Northeast Ohio Pastors Fellowship, and a member of the Ohio State Youth Committee.



Pleasant Hill burns mortgage 20 years early.

Smithville

June 7 marked the burning of a 30-year mortgage after only 10 years for **Pleasant Hill Baptist**. The building is filled to capacity each Sunday, and steps are already underway to construct a new auditorium. Stephen Olsen is pastor at Pleasant Hill.

Lemoyne

Dr. John C. Whitcomb, creation specialist, was guest speaker for a creation conference June 13-14 at **Lemoyne Baptist**. His Saturday and Sunday messages drew many from the community, as well as people from as far as Lima and Cleveland. Dr. Whitcomb's wife, Norma, spoke to the children. She is the author of a children's book, *The Mysterious Dinosaur*. Pastor Ronald Shinkle requests prayer as the church follows up on the local contacts made.

Willoughby Hills

Nottingham Baptist has called Tom King to serve as associate pastor of youth and family ministries. Tom, a graduate of Faith Baptist Bible College in Ankeny, Iowa, comes to Nottingham from University Heights Baptist, Indianapolis, Indiana. He and his wife, Karen, have two sons, Jordan and Kyle. The Kings began their ministry June 28. Scott Renstrom is senior pastor at Nottingham.

Johnstown

Johnstown Independent Baptist dedicated its new fellowship hall on April 12. The facility was built under the leadership of Pastor Drew Walther.

Grafton

Eldon Stevens, pastor of **Midview Baptist**, writes, "We were privileged recently to have Evangelist Terry French with us for meetings. The meetings were well attended, with the attendance growing each night. The people were challenged and blessed by the straight-forward...style of preaching. Decisions were made...that will affect our church for years to come. We highly recommend this C.O.M.E. evangelist..."



Washington Heights in Dayton sent a crew of 17 men and 5 women to Iwaki, Japan, to help Paul Bishop of Baptist Mid-Missions construct a church building. The January work team saved the Japanese congregation \$100,000 in labor costs.



Pastor Michael and Denise Fraser

Perry

On June 1, Michael R. Fraser became the pastor of **Faith Baptist**. Michael, a 1986 graduate of Baptist Bible College, Clarks Summit, formerly was youth pastor at First Baptist, Willowick. He and his wife, Denise, also a Baptist Bible College graduate, have two children, Michael and Jacob.

Sandusky

David L. Hixon has accepted the call to become pastor of **Calvary Baptist**. David has a Bachelor of Arts from Tennessee Temple University and a Master of Divinity from Temple Baptist Theological Seminary. He comes to Calvary from Pennsville Baptist in Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania, where he was youth pastor and music director. During the absence of a senior pastor for 1 1/2 years his responsibilities increased to include preaching each week. David and his wife, Faith, have three children, Charissa, Benjamin and Aaron.

London

Grace Baptist, pastored by Dwain Hill, recently observed its 25th anniversary, highlighted by the burning of the mortgage 2 1/2 years early. State Representative Larry Fetzer was the speaker at the morning service, and David Morris, who pastored Grace for 20 years, spoke at the special afternoon service. The church began as a Bible study in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elvin King, of Cedarville College. The Swordbearers, a student outreach ministry of the college, held street meetings in London for several months, and did door-to-door canvassing.

Garfield Heights

The **Suburban Heights Baptist Church** called an ordination council to examine their pastor, Timothy L. Fink, on Thursday, April 16. The chairman of the council was Lynn Rogers of Northfield. The council unanimously recommended to the church that they proceed with the ordination service on April 28.

Ravenna

Bible Baptist of Paris Township recently observed their 17th anniversary with the burning of a second mortgage. State Representative Larry Fetzer spoke at the service, and special recognition was given to the Adopt-a-Church program of the OARBC. Adopt-a-Church made a grant to the Bible Baptist Church at a very critical time when the church was in desperate financial straits. The church expressed its appreciation to the OARBC for its timely help.

Mike McLaughlin is pastor at Bible Baptist.

Norton

Norton Baptist has recently provided two rooms for the local affiliate of Baptists For Life to set up a maternity center. The center offers baby supplies and furniture, maternity needs, clothing from infant to adult sizes, packaged foods, baby food and formula, and a variety of handmade items provided by area women's groups. Informational brochures are available on subjects from baby care to post-abortion syndrome. The center very effectively shows clients that Jesus Christ loves them, and many leave with an interest in visiting the church services.

The center welcomes donations of anything from clothing to cribs, and cash donations to help purchase diapers.

**OIB news deadline
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Dear Ladies,



Wouldn't you love to have been there when the state inspector asked Brother Bill Roloff if he had the new dishwasher for

Skyview Ranch? Can't you just picture Bill's grin as he replied, "Sir, let me tell you all about the new dishwasher and the great God I serve!"?

And if you were not at the OWMU meeting in April, let me tell you about the dishwasher and the great God we all serve!

I will never forget what I saw when Elaine Veenhuis and I were asked to slip out of the meeting and come to the room where they were counting the project money. Right in the middle of the table was a mountain of quarter savers. Elaine had shared with me earlier that we had already met our goal; but, after the mountain was counted and Elaine announced we had \$12,000, I was in awe of our wonderful Lord and His goodness. Then when Karen Roloff shared that the dishwasher had recently been donated,

tears flowed freely as all of us rejoiced together that God had once again opened the windows of heaven and poured out a blessing. I thank you all for your faithful giving that allowed Him to do so.

And now, dear friends, we are called upon once more to live out Hebrews 6:10. Remember that verse says: "God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have shewed toward His name, in that ye **have ministered** to the saints, and **do minister**." Notice the verb tenses—past and present. We need presently to save our quarters for our courageous Liberian brothers and sisters in Christ. Those who survived the civil war need funds to rebuild the Baptist College of Church Ministries in Monrovia. Our goal is again \$6,000, but I am praying much and claiming the promise of Jeremiah 33:3. Won't you join me in that prayer?

To help promote the project and reveal the very real need in Liberia, Baptist Mid-Missions is making available the two videos shown at the state meeting. These are available through your area representative, the mission, or me. Please call soon and make arrangements to borrow

these for your meetings.

I know many of you pastors read this page, and I would encourage you to request the videos as well, so again this year we can have whole churches involved in saving quarters and praying as we "join hands and span the world for missions."

In His Love,
Sue Miller

1992 Ohio Women's Retreats

Scioto Hills

Date: September 10-12
Speakers: Dr. Cheryl Fawcett,
Cedarville College
Mrs. Barbara Anderson,
Baptist Mid-Missions
Hostesses: Women of Calvary Baptist,
Chillicothe
Cost: \$30 before August 10
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Salt Fork

Date: November 12-13
Theme: "God's Well-Watered Garden"
Speaker: Marcia Elmore
Cost: \$47 /4-6 per room
\$52 /3 per room
\$57 /2 per room
Registrations due by Sept. 24
Registrar: Waneta Bradley
2890 Old US Rt. 40 NW
London, OH 43140

Skyview Ranch

Date: September 17-19
Theme: "Redeeming the Time:
Ministering in the '90s"
Speakers: Deb Searles and Kari Zentz
Hostesses: Women of Perry Baptist,
Canton
Cost: \$34

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513-766-5913

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1750 Flinthill Dr.
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614-875-4128

Keeping Up With Our Camps

Scioto Hills



1992 Scioto Hills staff

To God be the glory for His continual provisions and blessings. We have just finished a great week of staff training. The many hours of studying the book of Philippians has drawn the staff closer to the Lord Jesus Christ and to each other.

Registrations are coming in for our fall couples retreats Sept 25-26 and Oct 2-3, so register early.

The fall senior saints retreat, Sept 29-Oct 1, is already over half full.

The Broken Tree Sawmill has been working great. We have been able to cut all the material for the bunks in the new A-frame, which saved the Lord's work here over \$600.

We have been licensed as an animal care/protector for injured and orphaned animals in Scioto County. Our first animal to care for was a 3-day-old fawn. We have named her "Babe." What a joy to be able to raise those little creatures who cannot help themselves.

We can use volunteer help at Scioto Hills all year around. If you have a day, a week, or any time available to help, contact Gary Storm at 614-778-2273.

Camp Patmos

The camp season is underway, and the trustees would like to thank all of the volunteer helpers who came to prepare the camp for this year.

Our development fund has already received some contributions, and we are anticipating the Lord's leading to meet the need of a wastewater treatment facility. Should the Lord so direct you or your church to give to this need, please send all contributions to:

Rev. Dean Henry
777 Rex Lake Road
Akron, OH 44319

A promotional video describing the camp and its operation is available. You may obtain a copy for showing to youth groups, etc., by contacting the trustees or the director, Rohn Thomas.

August 24-25 is a special date for all pastors and youth pastors. We have planned a retreat, and the only cost to the pastor and his wife is the boat fare from Marblehead boat dock. The meals and housing will be provided. We want pastors, youth pastors and wives to come and enjoy our facility. Dr. Paul Dixon will be guest speaker. All the waterfront activities will be available. The cost to register is \$10, which will be refunded when you arrive. Register for this great time of refreshment and fellowship by contacting:

Pastor Brad Quick
First Baptist Church
Box 929
Elyria, OH 44036

poems and tracts. Dr. and Mrs. Jennings celebrated their 60th anniversary January 1, 1992.

Milton E. Barkley was ushered into heaven June 8, 1992. During his 53 years in the ministry, he and his wife, Dorothy, served as pioneer missionaries to Alaska, and Milton pastored churches in Michigan, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Lancaster, Caldwell, and Coshocton, Ohio. He was a 1952 graduate of Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary, a WWII veteran, and a lieutenant colonel in the Civil Air Patrol.

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OARBC Men Promoted to Glory

Dr. B.C. Jennings went to be with his Lord on February 18, 1992. He was a pastor-evangelist in West Virginia and Ohio for over forty years, and he founded the first Christian high school in West Virginia. The Jennings moved to Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, in 1960, where he served as pastor of Graham Road Baptist Church for 12 1/2 years. In 1974 he accepted the call to become pastor of Calvary Baptist in Lancaster, Ohio, where he served for five years. Dr. Jennings was an author and a poet, having written *The Bible in Verse*, as well as other

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A memorial service for **Elton C. Hukill** was held at Beth-el Baptist Church of Elyria June 21. Elton served as pastor of several churches in Michigan and Ohio, among them Ambrose Baptist of Fayette, Berlin Heights Baptist, and as interim pastor and pastor emeritus of Beth-el, where he remained a member. He was active in the work of Camp Patmos.

Sensing the Need: Urgent!

by Pastor Joel Harriman

Do you sense an urgency in the need for a new church developer? "Urgency" is defined as calling for or demanding immediate attention. Synonyms for "urgent" are: pressing, burning, clamorous, crying, dire, imperative, importunate, insistent.

Is this the way you view the need for church planting in the state of Ohio? Is there a pressing need, a burning need, a crying need, a dire need, an imperative need and an insistent need for church planting?

There is a *great* need for church planting in Ohio.

There is a *great* need because God is "...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (II Peter 3:9). Planting new churches is recognized as "the single most effective evangelistic methodology under heaven" (C. Peter Wagner).

There is a *great* need because every man will stand accountable before God. The evangelistic work of past generations is not enough. God has no grandchildren. Each new generation must be confronted with the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ and offered an opportunity to respond to its invitation.

Is there a pressing need, a burning need, a crying need, a dire need, an imperative need and an insistent need for church planting? YES! My prayer is that we will all see the urgency of the need and support the OARBC new church developer.

5th Day of Prayer Set

The fifth annual OARBC "One Accord" Day of Prayer has been set for September 27, 1992. This special day has been designated by the Council of Twelve to be held each year on the last Sunday of September. Our suggestion is that all our churches pause in their worship service at 11:00 a.m. and join together for prayer in "One Accord." Many blessings have been reported in the past by participating churches. Maybe you can think of a way to make this a special day in your church.

*Submitted by "Gus" Guthrie
Education Committee Chairman
OARBC Council of Twelve*

Try This in Your Church

Ideas That Work!

Calvary Baptist Church of Broadview Heights has been involved in a Lend-a-Hand program that provides food for 35-40 families each month. This program has been a tremendous testimony of God's love and kindness to the community. Each month these families come to Calvary and receive about two weeks worth of groceries. Pastor Gregory Hogan and his wife, Karen, are also facilitating a support group for the recipients, dealing with spiritual needs, parenting skills, budgeting, and care of the home. Members of the congregation are active in collecting, sorting, and distributing the food and clothing.

Baptist Bible Institute Graduates 54

The 47th annual commencement of the Baptist Bible Institute was held at the Nottingham Baptist Church, Willoughby Hills, on May 11. Ten students graduated with the four-year Master Bible Diploma and forty-four received certificates of recognition for the completion of one or more series of six selected courses. Dr. David L. Moore, pastor of Cedar Hill Baptist Church in Cleveland, and a long time trustee of the school, was commencement speaker. Classes in 1991-92 completed fifty years of teaching in the Cleveland area through BBI.

Church Planting in Ohio

Laying the Foundation

Our nine-month-old church in Wapakoneta is growing quickly. Pastor Gary Bragg of Harvest Baptist Church reports on the continued blessing of God on their work. Attendance has already topped 100 three times. Five people were baptized recently and new families have joined the fellowship. Work is proceeding on the constitution and doctrinal statement. They hope soon to be a fully organized Baptist church. Continue to pray for this exciting work for God.

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You expect a lot from us. And as your brothers and sisters in Christ, we honor Him by serving you. We pledge to you that we will help you grow...and we'll have fun growing together!

We're affordable, too. Cedarville's costs are well below those of most accredited, independent colleges. And most Ohioans are eligible to receive an Ohio Choice Grant to attend Cedarville.

Your choice of a college will be one of the most important decisions you will ever make. Come see what Cedarville College offers.

- 75 programs of study
- Accredited Baptist college of arts, sciences, and professional programs
- Worldwide Christian ministries
- Over 2,000 students from 48 states and all over the world
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